

Allowable Claim 13 has been amended to include all of the limitations of the base claim. Accordingly, new independent Claim 13 is allowable.

Allowable Claim 14 has been amended to include all of the limitations of the base claim. Accordingly, new independent Claim 14 is allowable.

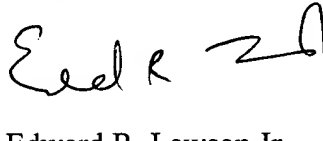
Claims 2-3, 5-14 and 23-30 stand finally rejected under the prior art of record. Applicants have filed herewith a Notice of Appeal appealing the rejections.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, entry of the present Amendment to place Claims 13-14 in a condition for allowance and to place the application in a better condition for appeal is respectfully requested.

The undersigned is available for telephone consultation during normal business hours.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Eed R Lawson Jr.", with a stylized flourish at the end.

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Docket No. 66042-9223-01
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Appendix
Marked-up Rewritten Claims

13. (Amended) A reciprocating saw comprising:
a housing including a first grip surface for an operator's first hand and a second
grip surface for an operator's second hand;
a motor supported by the housing;
a spindle movably supported by the housing, the spindle having an end adapted to
support a saw blade;
a drive mechanism connected between the motor and the spindle to reciprocally
drive the spindle relative to the housing upon operation of the motor;
a shoe for engaging a surface of a workpiece;
a shoe support member supporting the shoe, the shoe support member being
movably supported by the housing;
a locking assembly operable to lock the shoe support member in a position
relative to the housing;
a lever for operating the locking assembly between a locked condition, in which
the shoe support member is locked in a position relative to the housing, and an unlocked
condition, in which the shoe support member is movable relative to the housing, the lever being
supported on the first grip surface such that, during operation of said saw, the operator's first
hand engages the first grip surface and the lever and thereby maintains the lever in a locked
position corresponding to the locked condition of the locking assembly; and
a retainer member supported by the housing and defining a channel, wherein the
shoe support member is movable in the channel; and
[The reciprocating saw as set forth in Claim 10] wherein the housing defines a
slot, the retainer member being supported in the slot.

14. (Amended) A reciprocating saw comprising:
a housing including a first grip surface for an operator's first hand and a second grip surface for an operator's second hand;
a motor supported by the housing;
a spindle movably supported by the housing, the spindle having an end adapted to support a saw blade;
a drive mechanism connected between the motor and the spindle to reciprocally drive the spindle relative to the housing upon operation of the motor;
a shoe for engaging a surface of a workpiece;
a shoe support member supporting the shoe, the shoe support member being movably supported by the housing;
a locking assembly operable to lock the shoe support member in a position relative to the housing;
a lever for operating the locking assembly between a locked condition, in which the shoe support member is locked in a position relative to the housing, and an unlocked condition, in which the shoe support member is movable relative to the housing, the lever being supported on the first grip surface such that, during operation of said saw, the operator's first hand engages the first grip surface and the lever and thereby maintains the lever in a locked position corresponding to the locked condition of the locking assembly; and
a retainer member supported by the housing and defining a channel, wherein the shoe support member is movable in the channel;

[The reciprocating saw as set forth in Claim 10] wherein the locking assembly includes a locking member engageable with the shoe support member to lock the shoe support member in a position relative to the housing, the locking member including a first end and a second end, and wherein the retainer member defines a first opening and a second opening respectively receiving the first end and the second end of the locking member.